

**MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES REGULAR SESSION
11004 Carpenter Street, Mokena, Illinois 60448**

Session #022

November 14, 2022

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fleischer called the Regular Session of the Board of Trustees to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board of Trustees recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

Clerk Martini called the roll and the following Trustees were present:

Joseph Budzyn
Rob Dauphinais
Debbie Engler
Melissa Fedora
George Metanias

Absent: Jim Richmond

Also present were the following: Village Clerk Melissa Martini; Village Administrator John Tomasoski; Finance Director Nathan Pasbrig; Assistant Village Administrator Kirk Zoellner; Village Attorney Carl Buck; Community and Economic Development Director Matt Ziska; Chief of Police Brian Benton; and Assistant Director of Public Works Dan Peloquin

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Trustee Engler made a motion to enter executive session at 6:31 p.m. to discuss litigation, when an action against, affecting or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11). Trustee Metanias seconded.

AYES: (5) Budzyn, Dauphinais, Engler, Fedora, Metanias

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (1) Richmond

Motion carried

RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION

Trustee Engler made a motion to adjourn the executive session and reconvene the regular meeting at 6:52 p.m. Trustee Metanias seconded.

AYES: (5) Budzyn, Dauphinais, Engler, Fedora, Metanias

NAYS: (0)

Absent: (1) Richmond

Motion carried

RECESS OF REGULAR SESSION

Mayor Fleischer called a recess at 6:52 p.m.

RECONVENE REGULAR SESSION

The regular session reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Fleischer advised that the night's meeting began with executive session.

DISCOVER MOKENA

Charleigh Widleski was recognized for her participation and third place finish in the 2022 Major League Baseball (MLB) Pitch, Hit & Run competition. She thanked Mayor Fleischer, the Board of Trustees, and Trustee Dauphinais for their invitation to the night's Board meeting, and also thanked Village Administrator John Tomasoski and Assistant Village Administrator Kirk Zoellner for their involvement. She additionally thanked her family, friends, coaches, teammates, and school for all their support.

Mayor Flesicher complimented Ms. Widelski on her impressive performance.

Mayor Fleischer and the Board of Trustees expressed their pride in Ms Widelski's performance and congratulated her on her accomplishments.

Assistant Village Administrator Kirk Zoellner informed the audience that Charleigh recently competed in the National Finals of the MLB Pitch, Hit & Run competition for youth baseball and softball players in Houston, Texas. The competition took place in conjunction with this year's World Series between the Houston Astros and the Philadelphia Phillies.

Charleigh first competed in this MLB-sponsored event at the local level, capturing first place in the 9–10-year-old age category at a July 30 event in South Holland. As a result, she was advanced into a pool with other winners from around the Chicago metropolitan area. The three highest-scoring participants in each age group from all of the local Chicagoland contests were then advanced to the Midwest Regional on August 27 at Guaranteed Rate Field, home of the Chicago White Sox.

Winners of the seventeen regionals held at MLB ballparks throughout the country were next placed into another pool, and participants with the four highest scores were advanced to the National Finals in Houston, site of Games 1 and 2 of the World Series. Out of this process, Charleigh placed in the top 3 in the country for her age group. This resulted in her receiving an all-expenses paid (flight, ground transportation, hotel, food, and attire) trip October 28-30 to attend the World Series and compete for the MLB Pitch, Hit & Run National Championship in her age category.

For the 50 hours she spent in the city of Houston, Charleigh was treated like a big-league ballplayer. Among other things, she received a wardrobe full of World Series and Pitch, Hit & Run attire, attended a Game 1 watch party with MLB executives, participated in a photo shoot and interviews, and watched Game 2 of the Series from complimentary seats in the upper deck behind home plate at Minute Maid Park.

The weekend climaxed on Sunday, October 30, when Charleigh competed alongside 31 of the best baseball/softball players in the nation, ultimately finishing third in her age category.

Charleigh, who at 10 years old is a 5th Grader at St. Mary School in Mokena, is the daughter of Wally and Stacy Widelski. She has a 9-year-old younger sister, Scarlett. The Widelskis have been residents of Mokena since 2019.

A video of Charleigh's participation in the 2022 MLB Pitch Hit & Run competition was presented to the audience.

Trustee Dauphinais congratulated Charleigh on her hard work and accomplishments.

Clerk Martini presented the Community Calendar.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mr. Matthew Durka discussed the Village's ordinance regarding abandoned vehicles and requested the ordinance be amended to define what an "abandoned vehicle" is. He stated that his car does not fit the definition of an abandoned vehicle and keeps getting towed by the police department.

Mayor Flesicher requested Chief of Police Brian Benton obtain Mr. Durka's contact information and follow up with him regarding his concerns.

CONSENT AGENDA

Village Administrator John Tomaszoski presented two (2) items on the Consent Agenda for Board approval. These items are strictly administrative in nature.

- a. Motion to approve the minutes from the October 17, 2022 Work Session.
- b. Motion to approve the minutes from the October 24, 2022 Board Meeting and Work Session.

Trustee Engler made a motion to approve Consent Agenda items 7 (a) and (b) as depicted in the November 10, 2022 Request for Board Action prepared by the Village Administrator. Trustee Metanias seconded.

AYES: (5) Budzyn, Dauphinais, Engler, Fedora, Metanias
NAYS: (0)
Absent: (1) Richmond
Motion carried

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Village Administrator John Tomasoski presented the accounts payable list for November totaling \$4,167,932.60. He highlighted the following invoice to be paid:

- \$ 666,164.58 to Austin Tyler Construction for 2022 Street Improvements
- \$ 462,987.67 to Henry Bros Construction for the new Police Station

Trustee Engler made a motion to approve the monthly accounts payable in the amount of \$4,167,932.60. Trustee Metanias seconded.

AYES: (5) Budzyn, Dauphinais, Engler, Fedora, Metanias
NAYS: (0)
Absent: (1) Richmond
Motion carried

APPOINTMENTS/PROCLAMATIONS/PRESENTATIONS

Appointment of Michael McKinney to Maintenance I Worker Position

Assistant Director of Public Works Dan Peloquin advised the Board that as a result of Eric Kelly's resignation, the Street Department had an opening for one (1) Maintenance Worker I position. The Maintenance Worker I position was advertised in July/August 2022 because of previous vacancies, both in a local newspaper and the Village website. Twenty-eighty (28) applicants submitted resumes.

Village staff reviewed the applicants' resumes, conducted initial interviews, and selected five (5) candidates to move on in the interview process. Staff then scheduled second-round interviews with two (2) of the candidates. Based on the results of the interviews, as well as a review of training, work experience, and references, it was determined that Michael McKinney was most qualified to fill the Maintenance Worker I position.

Assistant Director of Public Works Dan Peloquin reviewed Mr. McKinney's work experience and educational background. He further recommended the appointment of Michael McKinney to fill the Maintenance I Worker position as he possesses the skills and capabilities necessary to perform all tasks required in connection with this position.

Trustee Engler made a motion to approve the appointment of Michael McKinney to the position of Maintenance Worker I in the Street Department at the starting step for that position in the First Amendment to the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Village of Mokena and the International Union of Operating Engineers, Local 150, Public Employees Division, July 1, 2016-June 30, 2020, executed March 22, 2021, effective on approval with an effective start date November 15, 2022. Trustee Metanias seconded.

Trustee Metanias congratulated and welcomed Mr. McKinney to the Village and stated it was nice to see Jamie Smith in attendance for support.

AYES: (5) Budzyn, Dauphinais, Engler, Fedora, Metanias
NAYS: (0)
Absent: (1) Richmond
Motion carried

Mr. McKinney thanked the Village Board for the opportunity.

PRE-SCHEDULED PROPOSALS / PRESENTATIONS AND VISITORS
N/A

PUBLIC HEARINGS
N/A

OLD BUSINESS

N/A

NEW BUSINESS

N/A

VILLAGE ADMINISTRATOR'S COMMENTS

Village Administrator Tomasoski thanked Commander Hogan and the Mokena VFW Post 725 for honoring our veterans at its annual Veterans Day Ceremony and further thanked all veterans for their service. He highlighted the recent roadway improvements on Old Plank Trail by the Will County Forest Preserve District. Village Administrator Tomasoski thanked Mokena Pack 39 Cub Scouts for the opportunity to recently meet to learn about local government and take part in a community planning exercise.

TRUSTEES' COMMENTS

Trustee Engler expressed her appreciation for the opportunity to attend the D.A.R.E. graduation ceremony at St. Mary's and congratulated all student graduates. She thanked Chief Benton, Sergeant Louthan and Officer Czarnecki for their participation. She invited and encouraged everyone to attend the Chamber of Commerce Parade of Lights and Village Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, November 19 beginning at 5:00 p.m.

Trustee Dauphinais thanked Trustee Engler, Chief Benton, Sergeant Louthan and Officer Czarnecki for their participation with the D.A.R.E. program. He highlighted and thanked Officer Czarnecki for the hard work and efforts he puts into the D.A.R.E. program. He congratulated Michael McKinney on his appointment. Trustee Dauphinais congratulated Trustee Richmond on his successful campaign for the Will County Board. He expressed his excitement for the upcoming Chamber of Commerce Parade of Lights and Village Tree Lighting Ceremony and looks forward to seeing everyone there.

Trustee Fedora highlighted the return of "Front Street Frosty" and invited everyone to attend the Chamber of Commerce Parade of Lights and Village Tree Lighting Ceremony on Saturday, November 19 at 5:00 p.m. She thanked Trustee Engler for acting as Chair of the parade. She congratulated Charleigh Widelski on her accomplishments and Michael McKinney on his appointment.

Trustee Budzyn passed on the opportunity to make comments.

Trustee Metanias stated he is looking forward to attending the Chamber of Commerce Parade of Lights and Village Tree Lighting Ceremony. He congratulated Michael McKinney on his appointment.

CLERK'S COMMENTS

Clerk Martini passed on the opportunity to make comments.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Fleischer stated it will be nice to have someone who understands local government and Mokena on the Will County Board and congratulated Trustee Richmond on his successful campaign. He highlighted the upcoming Chamber of Commerce Parade of Lights and Village Tree Lighting Ceremony and encouraged everyone to attend the event.

ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Engler made a motion to adjourn the regular session and enter into the scheduled work session at 7:25 p.m. Trustee Metanias seconded.

AYES: (5) Budzyn, Dauphinais, Engler, Fedora, Metanias

NAYS: (0)


Absent: (1) Richmond

Motion carried

Respectfully submitted,


Frank A. Fleischer, Village President

ATTEST:


Melissa Martini, Village Clerk